REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-18 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. patent application publication 2001/0042093 A1 to Shirai et al. (herein "Shirai") in view of U.S. patent 5,995,936 to Brais et al. (herein "Brais"). Claims 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Shirai in view of Brais and further in view of U.S. patent application publication 2003/0115277 A1 to Watanabe et al. (herein "Watanabe").

Addressing the above-noted prior art rejections, those rejections are traversed by the present response.

Initially, applicants note the claims are amended by the present response to make certain clarifications. Specifically, the claims first clarify, for example in independent claim 1, that the generating means generates "at least one of words or sentences corresponding to the recognized voice when said first predetermined operation is being executed", that first predetermined operation causing the camera to take a picture. Independent claim 1 also clarifies the file select means for "executing a second predetermined operation to select a file of said picture...". The other independent claims are similarly amended.

According to features set forth in the claims, a camera takes a picture and at least one of words or sentences with that picture can be input when the camera is taking the picture, and can then be stored in a memory with the picture information as a file of the picture, the at least one of words or sentences being stored at a predetermined position in the file of the picture. As a non-limiting example, the above-noted feature can be directed to associating a picture to be part of an e-mail with associated text, for example describing the picture, also desired to be part of the e-mail. Such a single file combining the picture and the at least one of words or sentences is saved. Also, as set forth in the pending claims, when the saved file

is selected transmission information, for example the specific e-mail transmission file, is also created. The above-noted features are believed to clearly distinguish over the applied art.

With the above-noted features a specific first operation can cause a camera to take a picture, and when that first operation is being executed to cause the camera to take a picture words and/or sentences corresponding to a recognized voice are generated. At least one of the words or sentences can then also be stored in a memory, as discussed in further detail below. Such features recited in the claims are believed to clearly distinguish over the applied art.

Applicants respectfully submit the prior art fails to teach or suggest the claimed feature that at least one of words or sentences corresponding to the recognized voice is generated when the first predetermined operation is being executed. According to that claimed feature, when a first predetermined operation that causes a camera to take a picture is being executed, then words or sentences corresponding to a recognized voice can be generated. That feature is believed to clearly distinguish over the applied art.

With respect to the above-noted feature the outstanding rejection cites Brais at column 9, lines 18-30.[1] However, applicant submits that portion in Brais does not meet the noted limitations.

At column 9, lines 18-30 Brais discloses that a voice recognition means can convert speech signals to digital signals. However, that portion of Brais does not disclose or suggest that such an operation is executed when a camera is taking a picture. As noted above, in the claims a first predetermined operation causes a camera to take a picture and while that first predetermined operation is being executed at least ones of words or sentences corresponding to a recognized voice can be generated. Brais does not teach or suggest such an operation.

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[1] Office Action of April 14, 2005, page 3, lines 11-13.

Further, applicants submit the prior art fails to teach or suggest the claimed feature

that "wherein said transmission information is created wherein said predetermined file is

selected in a batch operation when said second predetermined operation is executed", as

specifically required in independent claim 1, and as similarly recited in the other independent

claims. According to such a feature as set forth in the claims, when a saved file is selected in

a batch operation transmission information, for example the specific e-mail transmission file,

is created. Such features are believed to clearly distinguish over the applied art.

The claims are amended by the present response to clarify that the second

predetermined operation selects a file of the picture and the at least one of words or sentences

from the memory. Thus, the same operation that selects an already stored file also triggers

creation of the transmission information.

With respect to such features, the outstanding rejection now clarifies that such

features are disclosed in Shirai at page 4, paragraph [0076] and page 6, paragraph [0116], the

basis for the outstanding rejection noting that Shirai teaches "when the file to be attached is

selected, an attached file is automatically generated on the basis of the selected files".[2]

The above-noted further basis for the outstanding rejection is believed to not properly

be considering the claimed features.

In paragraph [0076] Shirai merely discloses attaching a file to an e-mail to be sent. In

paragraph [0116] Shirai merely discloses that mail destinations can be determined by

referring to an access list, and that specifically a mail tool 302 can extract users who can

access a designated file by referring to an access list 301g.

None of those teachings in Shirai are even closely related to the above-noted claimed

features.

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[2] Office Action of April 14, 2005, page 10, last paragraph.

In the claimed features a same operation that selects a stored file from a memory, the stored file already being formed of a picture and at least one of words or sentences, also results in the generation of transmission information for that file. Such features clearly distinguish over Shirai.

Moreover, the basis for the outstanding rejection noted above, namely that in Shirai "when the file to be attached is selected, an attached file is automatically generated on the basis of the selected files", is unrelated to the claimed features. The claims are not directed to selecting a file to be attached to an email, but instead are directed to selecting a file of a picture and already attached words and/or sentences that are stored in a memory. In the claims when that file stored in the memory is selected transmission information is automatically generated. Such claimed features are not directed to selecting a file to be attached to an e-mail.

In such ways, in the claims when a file of a picture and at least one of words or sentences is selected from a memory, that causes a creation of the transmission information. That is simply not the case in Shirai. In Shirai a transmission target file being designated generates a mail access list, which differs from the above-noted claimed features.

In such way, the further features recited in the claims distinguish over Shirai.

Further, applicants respectfully submit the applied art does not fully teach the claimed "memory means" for example as recited in independent claim 1. Specifically, independent claim 1 recites:

> a memory means for storing said picture and said at least one of words or sentences as a file of said picture, said at least one of words or sentences being stored at a predetermined position in the file of said picture.

The other independent claims recite a similar limitation. As a non-limiting example, in the claimed invention a voice command can be attached to a picture file, for example can be

13

attached to a predetermined position in a header of a still-picture file. Such a type of operation is believed to distinguish over the applied art.

With respect to the above-noted features the outstanding rejection now cites Brais at column 5, lines 28-29 and 65-67, and column 11, lines 42-44, and specifically indicates that Brais discloses that "the text and digitized images are inserted in chronological order into a word processing document and saved as a file".[3]

The above-noted basis for the outstanding rejection is believed to not properly consider the claimed features.

In contrast to Brais, in the claims as currently written at least one of words or sentences are stored at a predetermined position in the file of the picture, i.e. in a picture file not in a word processing file. That is, in the claims the picture file storing the picture includes the additional words and/or sentences. Brais does not teach such features.

In view of these foregoing comments, applicants respectfully submit the claims distinguish over Shirai in view of Brais.

Moreover, no teachings in the further cited art to Watanabe can overcome the above-noted deficiencies of Shirai in view of Brais.
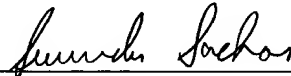
In view of these foregoing comments, applicants respectfully submit the claims as currently written distinguish over the applied art.

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[3] Office Action of April 14, 2005, page 11, second paragraph.

As no other issues are pending in this application, it is respectfully submitted that the

present application is now in condition for allowance, and it is hereby respectfully requested

that this case be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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